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VOL. VII.—NO. 43.

"SOPHISTICATIONS."**Source and Meaning of Adulterations
of Food.**

Driven by Competition, Capitalist Manufacturers Poison the People in Order to Sell their Goods—The Process is an Aid to the Lowering of Wages—Legislation an Inadequate Preventive—The Overthrow of Capitalism Alone can Now Stend.

This subject is not only of universal interest, referring, as it does, to the health and well-being of the people at large, but of especial interest to the workingmen as an economic phenomenon. Adulterated food is just as much a product of our faulty economic life as is the wage-laborer himself who consumes it. Both owe their existence to that special phase of economic life—capitalist mode of production.

In his book on "Foods: Their Composition and Analysis," A. W. Blyth makes the following statement: "Before adulteration commences, commerce must develop. In primitive states of society there may be knavish tricks, ignorant bartering, substitution of bad for good, falsehood and meanness of all kinds, but no systematic sophistication is possible. Again in the semi-pastoral state (as it existed in some parts of Scotland a century ago), in which the food of a family is raised from the soil on which they dwell, and clothing produced from their own sheep and spun into textile garments at their own fireside, commercial frauds are unknown or undeveloped." The author here either uses inadequate terms or does not trace the soil far enough. It is not the development of commerce that brought about the adulterations, but the development of manufacture.

The development of commerce presupposes the development of manufacture. Even raw materials require a certain amount of labor before they can get into the market. The merchant, who sells the manufactured goods, has nothing to do with their quality; he is only a middleman, a medium between the manufacturer and the consumer, he is, so to say, the conductive coil but not the storage battery, and like the coil, which conducts any kind of electricity, whether galvanic or Faradic, mean or strong, he distributes any kind of goods manufactured, for which there is a demand. True, certain merchants will handle spurious goods while others will only sell the genuine article, but this is altogether due to the kind of customers they respectively have; they do not create the demand but satisfy it. In the commencement of commerce, the manufacturer was also the dealer, he manufactured the goods that he brought to the market, and the responsibility for the inferior quality of those goods rested solely on him; then there was only cheating, no systematic adulteration being as yet possible. The modern merchant does not produce the goods he sells, he knows nothing of their quality, and is therefore not responsible for the adulterated goods he sells. Now and then a dishonest merchant will cheat his customer by under-weight or by substituting inferior grades for the ones called for, but this again is simple cheating, and has nothing to do with the wholesale fraud that consists in systematic adulterations. I dwell on this point because I want to bring the blame home to the capitalist or manufacturer, and thus correct the misconception which the interposition of the merchant originates in the minds of the people, who, facing the merchant, blame him for selling spurious goods, while the manufacturer of those goods sits behind the bush and enjoys the money plundered by fraud, and the respect of the community.

Capitalist production begat competition, and competition begat a great many evils, among which adulterations occupy quite a conspicuous place. The struggle for existence and the "survival of fittest" have here, as in everything else, the determining influence. In order to exist, and not be swallowed by his rival of larger capital, the small capitalist resorts to means that, at least temporarily take the place of the natural weapon—larger capital. He recognizes the fact that the strength of his enemy lies in the low price at which he can manufacture and sell his goods, and unless the small manufacturer can sell his goods at the same price he will have to leave the market. But the position of a capitalist, i.e., a man who reaps what he did not sow, is too good to be surrendered so willingly. No, he will fight the battle, and, like the heroic Nicholas, will fight even if he has only one soldier (laborer) left. True enough he has not immense capital, but he has laborers, who will compensate for that. He reduces wages. Hurray, the aim is achieved; he can sell his goods just as cheap; and he sees with delight that the big mouth of his monster-enemy is closed; he escaped destruction. But alas, the monster has again opened his mouth ready to swallow him; the big capitalist got a new machine, or also reduced wages, and now again sells his goods cheaper. What is to be done? The small fellow lengthens the working day. This also proves to be only a temporary remedy. He tries to save expenses of erecting expensive factories by introducing the sweating system, but also this eventually fails. That monstrous mouth—bigger and ever bigger capital—is constantly open, and like the sword of Damocles, constantly threatens destruction. In vain does he, the small fellow, try one remedy after another, all of them eventually fail. He finally resorts to adulteration.

By adulterating goods the small manufacturer kills two birds with one stone; he sells his goods cheaper; this cheapens the cost of subsistence of the worker, and this, in turn, reduces the wages.

The



People.

NEW YORK, JANUARY 23, 1898.

ON, FOR THE 100,000.**The Call of Michigan to Her Proletarians.**

The Harvest is Ripe for the Harvester Provided an Organized Effort is Set Forth to Bring the Whole Force of the Toilers to Bear Upon the Exploiting Class—This Could then Easily be Thrown Out of the Saddle.

Comrades and Fellow Proletarians who are not yet Comrades in Michigan—

In view of the fact that next fall there will be held in Michigan another general State election, in which the Socialist Labor party should participate, our State Committee, at its last regular meeting, decided to urge the different isolated Socialists to form themselves into Sections and affiliate with the other organized Socialists of the United States. Next fall the election ought to show that there has been work done in Michigan. Up till now the work has been done mainly by individuals, or at least by an individual Section. Detroit did not receive any outside financial help last fall, and last spring except from Comrades Chappel, of Plymouth and Wolf, of Saginaw. When we work together and in a systematic way, a great deal may be accomplished even with our limited funds.

The last spring election gave proof that Michigan has enough Socialists in every county to have a Section there. The total vote for Michigan was 2,205 votes.

The cost of all commodities or merchandise is determined and regulated by certain laws. The price of every merchandise is made up of the 3 component parts, first pointed out by Karl Marx, namely: the capital, or money spent on machinery, raw material, etc.; second, the capital, or the money invested in the "living machinery" as wages; and thirdly, the surplus balance, or the money appropriated by the capitalist as remuneration for his hard work of doing nothing, his "abstinence," etc. When it comes, however, to the adulterated goods all such laws and fixed proportions are altogether absent; their price, like their composition, depends on the same caprice and ingenuity of the manufacturer. He may add 25 per cent. of chicory to the coffee, he may add 50 per cent., or make it 75 per cent. and unless his fraud is exposed by the official chemist, none of the consumers will ever know to what extent he carries his adulterations. This is what made the so-called "honest" manufacturers, or the big capitalist, to decry this evil. These "honest" gentlemen recognized at once that their enemy, their smaller competitor, got quite an effectual weapon, which is likely to enable the small manufacturer to put himself on the offensive instead of as formerly keeping to the defensive. From that moment the big fellows put on sheepskins and piously demanded of the Legislature the enactment of laws against the evil of adulterations "for the sake of the poor, the suffering poor." With tears in their eyes they began to talk of the injurious effect that adulterated goods have on the health of their beloved workingmen.

That the real cause of their alarm was not the wholesale poisoning of the laborer, but their personal interest, is clearly shown by the late enactment of laws regulating the sale of goods, although adulterations existed much earlier. Thus the New York State general law for the prevention of the adulteration of food and drugs was enacted as late as 1881, and similar laws went into force in other States between 1881 and 1885. Battershall quite naively ascribes the delay in such legislation to the "American's characteristic of controlling their own personal affairs, and the resulting disinclination to resort to anything savoring of parental governmental interference;" although in his introduction to his book "Food Adulteration and Its Detection" he states that "the claim that manufacturers are often forced into adulteration by the necessities of unfair trade competition possesses more weight—an honest dealer cannot as a rule successfully compete with a dishonest one—(here he also confuses the manufacturer with the dealer)—and has undoubtedly influenced many of the better class to co-operate in attempts to prevent the practice" (they did that notwithstanding their anti-governmental characteristic). "The United States Tea Adulteration Act," he says, on page 19, "was passed by Congress in 1883. The enactment of this law was largely due to the exertion of prominent tea merchants, whose business interests were seriously affected by the sale of the debased or spurious article." On page 140 he further makes the following statement: "The addition of sodium bicarbonate (to the beer) is resorted to in order to increase the effervescent power of the beverage. . . . The apparent gain to the brewer of such beer consists in the economy of time and ice; he is also enabled to turn over his invested capital sooner than the more scrupulous manufacturer, who is thus placed in a disadvantageous position so far as trade competition is concerned."

K. Marx brings the statement of "honest" bakers, who claimed that they cannot compete with the "undersellers," who can sell their bread much below the average cost of its production, and hence they demanded legal protection. Even after these laws went into effect the judges were feeling their ground, and were quite slow in applying them, not being sure whether they would please or displease the majority of manufacturers. Thus "a confectioner in Boston was suspected of selling adulterated candy, and while it was proved that a sample bought of him contained a dangerous proportion of a poisonous pigment—chromate of lead—he escaped conviction on the plea that candy was

The times or conditions are dead ripe for Socialism. The old individualistic system of production and distribution is no longer adequate for the present collective operation of industry. Newspapers report the formation of new trusts almost daily; concentration of industry was never as apparent as it is now. With the supply limited and the smaller competitors and their former employees crowded to the street, the expenses (amount of people who receive wages), even in their own establishments, are greatly reduced. But who profits by this saving of expenses? Where will the capitalist find a market for their goods while the chance to earn something (to work) is taken away from the worker? The worker is the main consumer; any market is soon overstuffed when the working class cannot consume in proportion to the amount produced or produced there. To "save expenses" means to limit demand.

The last crisis is not past, its effects are felt as bad as ever, and still the lightning-like speed with which capitalism fulfills its mission—the concentration of production and distribution—creates conditions that make persons

(Continued on Page 4.)

"PROSPERITY," AGAIN.**We Now Know the Best it Can Do—is that Satisfactory?**

Clippings From Papers, that are Shouting Prosperity and Assert it Has Arrived and is in Full Blast, Critically Compared—Workingmen's Duty, Unless they Are Thanksgiving Turkeys to be Eaten.

POLK, Pa., Jan. 17.—Prosperity is here without any question whatever, and the election pledges of the Republicans are fulfilled, whether of their own doing or not. Out of the tons of evidence industriously circulated each day twice, this can be quoted from the Pittsburgh "Commercial Gazette," Jan. 8, 1898:

"Proof of Prosperity—The past year the best of which there is any record—Figures on the Business Barometer Tells Their Own Story—Good Outlook for 1898—The Iron Industry Further Encouraged."

"New York, Jan. 7.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade will say in its issue to-morrow: 'In failures 1897 was not only the best year since 1892, but on the whole the best ever definitely known. The commercial failures were but 13,351, with liabilities of \$154,332,071; the average failure being only \$11,559, the lowest ever known, except in 1892. But even in that year the failures during the last half averaged liabilities of \$10,477 per failure, while in the last half of 1897 the average was only \$9,593.'"

I want those who are working at reduced wages, those who are working under harder conditions, those who should not, on account of their age, sex or physical conditions, be working at all, and yet be fully provided for, to note this well. PROSPERITY IS HERE, AND THIS IS THE BEST WE HAVE EVER DONE, and this is what "Republican prosperity," after all, has been accomplished, can do, which is so inadequate, and so empty.

While the "Free Silver Prosperity" was laid on the shelf lately as an inferior thing to the present gold lined, "honest dollar," "national honor" brand—it has some hope of being taken down again to be reduced and maybe accepted, for a change (for even prosperity grows monotonous with our "nervous, hurrying American.") In passing it should be noted that, had Free Silver been successful, and had its best feature—silver wheat and the long chain of blessings attached thereto—been realized without the drawbacks ascribed to Free Silver by treacherous Shylocks, things would have no earthly chance of being a whit better than now. For we now have the high prices from tariff and exceptional grain market, which was all that could be claimed for more money.

That the failures were 11½ less than in 1896 is a cheering thing no doubt to business men, especially business men with liabilities greater than that fatal \$5,932 of the last half of 1897. Since poverty has been discovered to be so blessed by Andrew Carnegie, as his private experience, lately exposed, testified; we no doubt would be thankful that those 13,351 averaging \$11,559 had so soft a place to land on when they reached terra firma, did not the following, among others of like nature, which makes us wonder a good deal where they will find that supreme blessing work.

On account of an order for 17,000 feet of iron railing for the Harlem River Drive-way and other good reasons, "to meet increased business, Mr. Albrecht has found it necessary to increase facilities by installing NEW MACHINERY and erecting a traveling crane, running from his works to the railroad, besides several smaller cranes for handling purposes." (He has also a foreign agency to meet the FOREIGN DEMAND.) Why tariff?

Also this:

"From two to three of the Pittsburgh riveting machines are being shipped weekly: a 68-inch portable riveting machine, driving 1,000 15-16-inch rivets in a stand pipe daily, was shipped, etc."

Of course this is not the whole world or even nation, but a fair sample. Our prosperous friend referred to evidently needs no extra help, as he is "instilling new machinery," and even loads his cars with "a traveling crane." If the same paper a week or two ago, in speaking of the evidences of prosperity by comparing the number of unemployed in New York City with the number a year ago, had not mentioned that "there were 100,000 persons in New York involuntarily idle," one might have hoped employment could have been found in putting up that fence; even though borrowed money paid for it; but with the "100,000 involuntarily idle" it can not be, and seeing lately in the same paper a "machinist, a good workman, unemployed for a long while, sober man," being found in a stable, badly frozen and suffering from neglect and exposure, one cannot reasonably hope that the afflicted 13,351 can be dignified by laboring on the construction of those "traveling cranes," etc.

It is a bad case. We know full well that "business has revived"; a panic cannot last forever, and present institutions stand. So we are not robbed of any arguments against the capitalist system or for the Socialist Commonwealth by the (often fraudulent) publication of items like the following:

"Large order for rails. The Pennsylvania Railroad contracts for 100,000 tons" (at about \$18 a ton). Such orders are necessary to keep the machinery in motion, no men of consequence being used in their construction.

"Big orders for tin plate bars, Pennsylvania and Indiana alone ordering 75,000 tons."

"Surpassed all records" did the Pittsburgh Locomotive Works, galvanized 3,901 net tons of wire in December, the largest output, largest plant in the U. S., if not in the world.

We had been hearing of the wonderful output of steel in Braddock, Duquesne, Homestead, etc., until a general reduction of from 10 to 40 per cent. in wages at one fell swoop took from the race-running employees all that they had gained, leaving them the extra labor, which is still to go at the new place.

"Great year on the lakes; Erie's tonnage receipts increased by 675,000 in 1897, and many others of a similar nature.

These transactions are put in motion by the release or circulation of money by reason of debt, national, state, county and municipal; by large concerns increasing their facilities to withstand the next crash, and to harvest the present opportunity, and by the small savings formerly withheld from business either by fear or lack of opportunity, which "restored confidence" has called from hiding, and which will very likely go to the direction of the \$154,332,071 before mentioned, in due time.

Add to this the circulation of wages required to carry all this on, and the recirculation of the profits, taxes and interest connected with the operation, and you see the forces that under the capitalist system are rapidly "circulating" both money and commodities to such a position that the whole thing will break down again, with the usual results intensified.

You who can see; you who can hear: you who can speak—work! Show to all that there is nothing further to wait for; that we have got that prosperity, and that it is found wanting—all know.

The traveling crane and elsewise preclude the possibility of relief from labor exchanges.

The vast army of class-unconscious proletarians precludes adjustment by the initiative and referendum here and now:

The "foreign demand" precludes a long continuation of high tariff or an acceptance of the "flat" of any small country for goods sold, the large countries, even when we can sell to them, having the gold standard, thus putting Free Silver out of the question;

The economic development making colonization a joke;

The adoption of the Single Tax an unnecessary proceeding, it being now adopted by the capitalists of weight;

The competition between the employed and the unemployed, making all economies and low prices or tariffs a delusion and a snare;

The failure to connect any of the 13,351 with the "drink habit" fails to introduce Prohibition into the case;

The reduction of wages in the East being ascribed to constraining laws and Southern (American) competitors, knocks any "patriotic" or "alien labor" ideas out of wind;

The past experience of pure and simple labor unions and their fakirs holds up against any hope from even a continuation of such;

And with the shady history of the "Friends of Labor"—the Carroll-D-Wrights, Terrence V. Powderleys, Henry Georges, William Jennings-Bryans, etc., the follow-me-I-will-storm-the-fort heroes, becoming fewer in the field and shutting off any hope for that quarter;

There is only the Socialist Labor party left as the only way out—for all those who are not in the condition of the late turkeys just before Thanksgiving.

O. N. E. LACKALL.

Comrade Bernardino Verra has hit upon an excellent plan to reach the masses of his Italian fellow men in this country. These Italians in America have been hitherto used by unscrupulous countrymen of theirs as veritable mercenaries for capitalist political battles. The difficulties of speech have to a great extent barred Socialist agitation from reaching them, and redeeming them from the clutches of their bellwethers; even incidental Socialist addresses in Italian failed to prove attractive and effective.

Comrade Verra now attacked the evil in a new way. He wrote an Italian play, with the scene in Sicily; the plot brings out the exploitation of the working class by the capitalist class, and pointedly illustrates the folly of a warfare that singles out a single "padrone" for punishment. The play is full of exciting scenes and situations, and presents the theories and tactics of the Socialist Labor party in manner most taking.

The play is now being performed in the Italian theater on the Bowery, and is an unqualified success.

The organizer of Section New York should follow up this success with the distribution of party literature, and clinch the work of Verra's.

Cigarmakers' Union No. 100, of Philadelphia, passed resolutions requiring the President of the International Union to explain the non-appearance of the financial report, and demanding its publication.

That report would have been overdue even last May, but this is the day when it has not yet seen the light. The union-wreckers, who, under the flag of labor have been doing understrappers' work of the capitalist class, withhold the report because it is an indictment of their own corruption and imbecility.

As Cigarmaker Newmayer said some time ago in these columns, at the time we called the attention of the bona fide rank and file to the bankruptcy into which their fakir leaders had led the organization, "no man who withholds the truth from the workers can mean it well with them."

"Addition, division and silence" is the motto, not of the capitalist politicians only, but of their reprobates, the Labor Fakirs.

Whatever is manly and honorable in the International Union will join No. 100 in the demand for an explanation of the bono game of silence on their financial report, and for the immediate publication of the truthful figures.

The Tammany Hall Assemblyman from the 16th New York District seems to want to make hay while the sun shines. He seems to have a pretty clear appreciation of the effects upon him and his old bailiwick from the Socialist vote polled there last November. He seems to realize that his shorn vote endangers his chances for a renomination next November, or, if he manages to secure that, that the Socialist rising flood will drown him and beat him.

He has one bill to make cigarette smoking a penal offence; another bill to forbid the Elevated Roads from posting advertisements in their cars for pay, etc., etc.

All these bills, and similar ones, have a well known flavor. They are regularly introduced by Assemblymen as a means to "strike" the large corporations that are threatened by them.

Assemblyman Benjamin Hoffmann is evidently in a hurry to make what he can in the short sun-shine still allotted to him.

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SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| In 1892 (Presidential)..... | 2,068 |
| In 1890..... | 12,231 |
| In 1893 (Presidential)..... | 21,157 |
| In 1894..... | 22,122 |
| In 1895 (Presidential)..... | 26,564 |
| In 1897..... | 54,159 |

As nations can not be punished in the next world, they are punished in this. By an inevitable chain of cause and effect, Providence punishes national sins with national calamities.

MASON.

OBJECT LESSONS ON A BROAD STAGE.

Making ample allowance for the mendacity of the capitalist press, many circumstances combine to indicate that, in the matter of the British engineers' strike, the devil does not always lie. The strike may be considered lost; it is lost—hopelessly, unquestionably lost. And yet, perhaps, not absolutely.

When a battle is about to be fought the elements of strength of the contending sides are always considered. The issue of the battle, as a rule, depends upon the correct estimate of such elements. When the strike started, did the leaders of the engineers make this calculation? They confidently counted upon victory. From what premises did they draw their confidence? From the premises of their treasury; their own treasury and the much larger treasury that they justly knew would flow to them in the course of the conflict from their fellow toilers of all countries. In doing that the leaders of the engineers committed a military blunder that deserves for them summary Court-Martial proceedings.

Strength is a relative thing. What is strength in one case may be impotence in another. An army, 10,000 strong, may be an overpowering force when pitted against it, there is a body of only 100 men; and, inversely, that same army of 10,000 men becomes a hopeless weakling when its adversary is 1,000 strong. The engineers overlooked this principle. They considered only the strength of the money at their own disposal; this they announced to be something like a million dollars. Such a treasury is surely not a weak one; but its strength in a conflict, like the strength of numbers in battle, is a relative affair. A million to fight with would be overwhelming when it has only one thousand dollars against it; but it is wholly inadequate when hundreds of millions are arrayed against it. This was the case in this instance. The treasury of the capitalist class is infinitely superior to that that all the forces of labor combined can muster up for the fray. The engineers blundered in keeping their eyes on their own treasury without taking that of the foe into consideration.

But there was another military blunder committed. In battle, a body numerically inferior to another may yet be the superior force. Its superiority would depend upon its position. A position of vantage may give the preponderance of power to a smaller over a larger force, and bring it victory. No reliable strategist overlooks that; he weighs the position of his own and that of his adversary. The leaders of the engineers neglected that consideration. Had they kept it in mind they would have discovered that, in point of position alone, their foe commanded all the strategic points. That foe is entrenched in the Government; it has the power of legislation, of interpretation of laws and of their enforcement. Its position alone is powerful; adding to that its actual superiority in soldiers (money), and the issue could be none other than the defeat of the strikers.

What happened, the victory of the usurping class, may or may not be a complete victory for Capitalism according as the strike has or has not taught the above elemental lessons in warfare. If it has failed to teach them, then the defeat is crushing. If, however, it has opened the eyes of the engineers and all their fellow wage-slaves to the fact that the very thing that renders them slaves is the possession of the bulk of the wealth by their exploiters; that in a conflict between dollars, the exploited is "not in it"; that the Government is an invaluable aid to the class in control; that to dislodge the capitalist from that point of vantage is a strategic feat easy of accomplishment, seeing the exploited—the wage-slave class—is numerous, while the exploiting, the capitalist class is infinitely small—if these facts have at least reached a clearer stage of perception in the minds of the proletariat, then the battle just lost is one virtually gained; instead of being a landmark of

UNHAPPY LETTER-CARRIER.

The letter carriers are truly to be pitied. For years, the lure of "something NOW," has led them by the nose, in the tow of some scheming capitalist politician or other, and with the assistance of some scoundrel labor leader or other. But all that they got "now," was promises; for years they have been fed on that. And they seem to like it.

But that has happened which was bound to happen. "Retrenchment," "economies" is the cry of the capitalist in the shop, and is likewise his cry in the Government that he controls. But "economies" in the shop mean a reduced total wage; accordingly, "economies" in the Government means ditto, ditto, and for all around identical purposes.

No capitalist, when, to the tune of "economy," he reduces the wages of his employés, carries or thinks of carrying the theory of economy into his own ex-

penditure. Nothing of the sort. On the contrary. The cry of "economy" always means "squeeze the workers in order that I may have more to lavish upon myself, thereby seem richer, and thereby increase my credit."

Ditto, ditto, in the Government. "Economy" in the wage paid the Government employés means, accordingly, a lower wage for the wage-slave and larger sums for the railroad and other magnates who plunder the Government.

Just now a savage retrenchment is threatened in the P. O. As a matter of course, it affects the workers only. Have the letter carriers learned anything? It seems not.

This conclusion is justified by the fact that they allow a Quiggin and such other misleaders to again stuff them full with promises, instead of their kicking the swindlers heels over head out of their meeting, and declaring that they are through with playing the rôle of geese to be stuffed.

The proletariat has nothing to hope for except from its own political party.

KICKING SPOTS OUT OF OUR "PALLADIUMS."

Other countries have one "Palladium," at most two, of "freedom," "justice," "order," "family," "religion" etc. Ours, as the capitalist country par excellence, must have more than that; indeed, it has a large number of "Palladiums." Every nook, or corner, or dunghill, or rat-hole, which, with some added fortifications, can and does afford special opportunities for our capitalist brigands to commit their acts of brigandage with impunity, is no sooner found to answer its purpose well than it is immediately extolled by our capitalist press, our political professors and parsons as a "Palladium" of freedom. Among such "Palladiums," our Courts have long held foremost place. Sometimes the militia threatened to crowd that "Palladium" back and take first place, but, on the whole, the Courts have held "their own." Presided over and controlled by the political spawn of capitalist impurity, the Judge-run Courts have, on the whole, held first rank in the column of our long list of "Palladiums." But there is now the danger that this "Palladium" is out-Pallidiuming the "Palladium," to such an extent that it may knock itself down. It is essential to the effectiveness of "Palladium" that the people don't see through its fraud. When it overdoes the thing, then it may knock spots out of itself. This is just what is now going on.

Our readers will remember the numerous instances in which justice prevailed in the Courts, and wrong was branded there, not with the aid of, but despite all that the Judge could do: In the recent instance of the free speech issue in Boston, Comrade Avery was promptly condemned by a magistrate, and the vindication of the great cause she stood for had to await an appeal; and was secured only by a jury; similarly, some time before, when a Tammany Judge falsified the law and did all in his power to acquit the common libeler Kurzenknebe, it was a jury that had to wrench justice from the Tammany brigand who acted as Judge on the "Palladium," and branded the fakir malefactor Kurzenknebe. And so forth.

But these instances, in which the Court "Palladium" was un-Pallidiumed by the people in the shape of juries, have become so numerous that the brigand capitalists, in command with the title of "Judge," have been constrained to put forth more than usual energy to earn their hire. The latest of these instances was in Chicago a few days ago. What happened there will be best understood by the light of the above background.

A blacklisted railroad employé sued a railroad company for damages, etc., under the law. The case was clear; the crime palpable. The capitalist brigand in command, with the title of "Judge," at this particular Chicago "Palladium," resorted to all the tricks of strategy to bring about a miscarriage of justice and preserve the reputation of the "Palladium" in his charge. But it booted naught. The jury was not to be either cajoled, bamboozled or hoodwinked; it brought in a verdict of \$20,000 damages. This was a black-eye to the "Palladium"; thereupon the Judge did, what? HE SIMPLY SET ASIDE THE VERDICT!

As there are defeats that are equivalent to victories, so there are victories that are equivalent to defeats. This victory of the "Justice-Palladium" is of the latter category. It was a kick at itself by the very brazenness of the kick given to the popular superstition concerning its Palladiumpship. If this were the first "kick" on the list it might not establish a theory. But it is not. Other "kicks" of this sort have preceded, and as their number increases so increases also their vehemence. This last "kick" is, perhaps, the most significant, it almost partakes of the nature of a culminating point. The more the merrier.

Let our "Palladiums" by all means kick spots out of themselves.

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INTERNATIONAL FAKIRISM.

How true it is that the pure and simple labor leader is but a parrot, if not a lap-dog, of capitalism; and, furthermore, how true it is that Capitalism, being international, its labor fakir puppets, whether in America, England or elsewhere, all move with one impulse, smart the same snarls, and go through the same antics, the strings tied to their legs being pulled by the same central force—the Capitalist Class, has recently been strikingly illustrated.

At the same time that here in America Mr. P. C. McGuire opened his "Carpenter" for all his kindred fakirs in America to echo the capitalist lies against Socialism, and particularly the lies uttered against our sturdy Comrades in France who, elected to public offices, are leveling the blows of the proletarian at the very root of capitalist usurpation—at the same time that that is and was going on here, that other "pure and simple" manikin of the capitalist bosses, Mr. David Holmes, of Paris, M. G. Villain, looked into everything, making the minutest search into all departments, and he failed to discover a single one of the corrupt practices spoken of by Holmes & Co. The "Temps" would have been only too glad to denounce them to the public.

"Holmes' calumnies were being spread in Holland; Von Kol (M. P. of the Dutch Chamber of Deputies) asked me to refute them. I thought it quite sufficient to send him a few numbers of the Paris "Temps," which sent a representative to thoroughly examine the administration of the Roubaix municipality.

This representative, one of the most reactionary municipal councilors of Paris, M. G. Villain, looked into everything, making the minutest search into all departments, and he failed to

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Mr. David Holmes and M. Carrette,

Mayor of Roubaix:

To the Editor of the "Express and Advertiser."

Sir:—It has come to my knowledge that Mr. David Holmes has been stating publicly in Burnley that "The Mayor of Roubaix, six deputies and fifteen councilors have, between them, during the last four or five years, evicted some thirty council employees, officials, etc., for no fault, or for trivial faults, and have given the whole of the offices thus made vacant to their own relatives and friends. This is what you may expect if Socialists obtain power here—corruption and prostitution of delegated authority to enrich one's self and one's friends." And Mr. Holmes is said to quote the "Roubaix Journal" as his authority. "Tell me the company you keep, and I will tell you what you are," says the proverb. Mr. Holmes is, however, so profoundly ignorant of French and French things, that he probably does not know the sort of company he is in when the fraternises with the "Journal de Roubaix." If he did, I fancy even he would blush. But certainly Mr. Holmes must have known that his statements with regard to Mayor Carrette and the Roubaix municipality are absolutely untrue. The people of Burnley have not, however, the opportunities of Mr. Holmes for learning the facts of the case as opposed to his fictions, and to the end that they may learn these facts (and incidentally the reliance to be placed in Mr. Holmes' words), I ask you, Sir, to publish the subjoined letter. It is from the well known author, M. Paul Lafargue, a former deputy, to whom I have written on the subject, suggesting that either he or the Mayor of Roubaix should answer Mr. Holmes.

We have stated repeatedly that all this dollars and cents talk finally resolves itself into a quarrel between the two wings of capitalism—the plutocrats and the bankrupt middle class—and to this day no financial crank has been able to show how the gold standard, the double standard, the silver standard or the paper standard will be direct legislation in the interest of the working class, abolish rent, interest and profit and substitute a rational system of production and distribution by abolishing the present criminal wastefulness and overwork. This question is usually dismissed with a few well-chosen but meaningless phrases, and the successful in life are expected to be good and kind to the poor and ignorant as now.

The "Citizen" might, however, have asked the "Plaindealer" to explain to a patient public upon what ground it imagines that an increase of wealth in the shape of silver dollars, implies an increase thereof to the wage earners, when a tremendous increase of wealth in all other shapes has meant only an increase of poverty to these same workers?

But probably the "Citizen" was in a charitable mood, and did not care to drive nails into the "Plaindealer's" coffin additional to those it did drive into it.

Says the Johnston, R. I., "Beacon":

"Socialists have no cut and dried scheme for making the Co-operative Commonwealth a fact. The road to Socialism is new and no man or nation has yet travelled over it. But guided by the history of the past and inspired by the science of the present the Socialist army sweeps aside the petty obstacles in its path and marches on to victory."

Under the captions:

"This Speaks for Itself."

"Chairman R. J. Hinton Calls Down His Libeler, Daniel De Leon."

the expiring Chicago "Social Democrat" publishes IN ITS ISSUE OF THE 13TH a stupidly impudent bluff letter, sent to this office by the Hinton aforesaid; and carefully suppresses the fact that THE PEOPLE had promptly called down the bluffer by the following "Letter Box" answer in our issue of the 9th:

"Richard J. Hinton, 1417 6th street, N. W., Washington, D. C.—We have nothing to retract, and nothing to apologize for; we stand by every word printed in these columns about you."

"Stop threatening; go ahead and sue. We are ready for you."

By suppressing this fact, well known to the "Social Democrat" at the time it sent Hinton's bluff to the printer, that paper betrays the fact Hinton & Co.'s scheme of secret threats was smashed by the publicity given it by THE PEOPLE, and that THE PEOPLE's prompt and public call down was a clap that disconcerted more flies than the one on whose head it fell.

Indeed, the whole episode does "speak for itself."

The public must now be ready for some funny, and yet surely instructive, scenes in Lynn, Mass.

The Central Labor Union of that city, tired of being led by the impure apron strings of the A. F. of L., cut loose, returned the charter, and is now going it alone.

This suits the labor misleaders so ill, that, it is said, Gompers and his Lynn fakirs are getting ready to set up an "opposition" C. L. U.

If this rumor prove true we shall soon see in Lynn proof of what has been seen elsewhere, that fakirism's objection to "opposition" unions is limited to unions that are bona fide labor organizations.

Municipal Councilors are not paid, and those who worked in the factories were discharged, and the Roubaix employers, thoroughly united against the Socialists, agreed not to give them any employment—thus attempting to starve them into giving up their municipal functions or leaving the town. But not only were the councilors themselves shut out of every factory and workshop—their relatives also were black-listed.

Thus the two daughters of the Adjunct Lepers were thrown out of work, as were also the brother and the children of Carrette. Fortunately in the Nord Department several Socialists have been able, through the brewers, who are reactionary as they may be, prefer their

interests to their politics, to set up small cafes; other councilors found work in the large Co-operative Society of Roubaix, others became small dealers and hawkers, while yet others—and these are the greater number—got places in the new departments (not the old places) started by the municipality.

Thus the daughters of Lepers are employed in the kitchen of one of the "cantes scolaires" (the establishments where the children are fed.) Carrette, however, like Delory (the Mayor of Lille), has steadily refused to let any of his relatives be employed in any way by the Municipality. Nevertheless, Carrette's son, who is married, was a long time out of work and without means. Delory's old father is in an almshouse, where he had gone before his son's election as Mayor of Lille, so that since, as before, the old man receives public aid. This is how Socialists "enrich" their friends.

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POLAND.

The following contribution to the history of Socialism in Poland is from the pen of Comrade B. A. Jedrzejowski, of London, General Secretary of the Foreign League of Polish Socialists.

In 1795 Poland was finally dismembered by the three neighboring empires, which had already before divided among themselves a large slice of her territory. Nevertheless she has remained to this day united by a common language and literature, common historical traditions, and a common struggle for national independence and unity. The part of Poland annexed by Russia is the most important, not only because of its greater size and higher industrial development, but also because it is the center of Polish intellectual life and political movements. It is therefore natural that modern Socialism in Poland should originate in this part of the country in spite of Russian persecution. The Socialist refugees were also the first apostles of Socialism in Austrian and Prussian Poland.

The Socialist movement was started in Warsaw in 1877 on the basis of the scientific Marxist Socialism by a few circles of young students of Warsaw University. They soon found numerous ardent Comrades among the manual workers, and since then the movement has been a purely proletarian one. Up to the end of 1881 there was no definite party organization; the members were only loosely grouped together, and were content with reading such Socialist literature as they were able to secretly obtain, teaching each other, helping strikes, and carrying on the propaganda as well as they could individually undertake to do at no small risk to themselves. In 1879, however, there was started in Geneva the Polish Socialist paper, "Equality," which was of course smuggled into Poland. Early in 1882 the small isolated circles were organized in one body, known as "The Proletariat," which immediately proclaimed the necessity of a political struggle against Russian despotism. Since then the war against this most dangerous enemy of the working masses has been carried on without interruption and by every possible means.

The "Proletariat" was, of course, a secret society, as all Socialist organizations under the yoke of Russian Czardom must be; but it soon had branches in all the industrial centers of Russian Poland. During eleven years of its existence it gave many examples of brilliant heroism and personal sacrifice. In January, 1886, twenty-nine of its members were tried by a court-martial; four of them—Hartowski, a justice of the peace; Kunicki, a civil engineer; Ossowski, a shoemaker; and Pietrusinski, a weaver—were hanged, and the remaining twenty-five were exiled for life to Siberia, sentenced to penal servitude in the mines. At the same time more than two hundred other members of the party were sent to Siberia by "administrative order," that is, without trial. Since then the persecution of Socialists has been relentless. In one year alone—1894—about 1,000 Comrades were arrested! Nevertheless, "The Proletariat" spread Socialism among the people, organized and conducted many successful strikes, and distributed large numbers of pamphlets, most of which were directly issued from the clandestine press at home. In 1883 and 1884 there was also secretly published in Warsaw a periodical entitled "Proletariat." Moreover, the party succeeded in defeating several attempts of the Russian government to further degrade the people; such, for instance, as the order of the Warsaw police in 1883, that all the women employed in factories be periodically subject to a medical examination as prostitutes! One of the chief merits of the "Proletariat" was the introduction of May Day into Russian Poland in 1890, conformably to the resolutions of the Paris International Congress. The first of May could not be celebrated there by holding open air meetings as in the rest of Europe; but the workers could at any rate refuse to work, and the large number of them who took a vacation on that day showed that the Paris Congress had provided the Polish Socialists with an excellent means of propagating among their oppressed countrymen ideas of international brotherhood and social justice.

The rapid growth of Socialism in Poland, as compared with its slow progress in Russia, is additional evidence of the inferior development of the latter country. In the light of this contrast it becomes apparent to the Polish workingmen that they cannot afford to wait for their deliverance until the Russian peasantry ripens intellectually, politically and industrially. Moreover, in all their conflicts with the capitalist class, the Polish workers have found the Russian bayonets against them. The general strike of 1892 in Lodz, after the first of May celebration, is an example. Sixty thousand men struck work, and the employers were ready to grant all their demands; but the Russian authority intervened and forbade the employers to make any concessions. At the same time the strikers, who had not broken the peace, were attacked by the military; 46 were killed outright, 200 were wounded, many of them mortally, and about 1,000 were arrested. In view of this state of affairs it may, therefore, be readily comprehended that the idea of an independent Polish Republic, so dear to the Polish middle class also, but for other reasons, should have found emphatic expression in the political programme of the Socialist party, without in the least affecting the international character of the movement.

Meanwhile, in 1890 and 1891, the exclusiveness of the "Proletariat" caused the formation of three separate Socialist bodies. Such a division of forces, at a time when united action was essential, could not, however, last very long. In December, 1892, representatives of all the Socialist bodies of Russian Poland held in Paris a secret conference. The result was the formation of one "Polish Socialist party," demanding the Independent Polish Republic, as a necessary step towards the total abolition of the present competitive system and the establishment of an International Socialist Brotherhood. It demanded: (1) Universal adult suffrage for both sexes; direct legislation by the people; equality of nationalities upon the federative principle; local autonomy; complete liberty of association, speech, press and religion; free administration of justice; free education and public maintenance of school children; abolition of standing armies and the arming of the whole nation; removal of taxes from necessities. (2) A maximum workday of eight hours; legal equalization of wages for both sexes; prohibition of child labor under the age of fourteen, and limitation of working-day for young persons to six hours; no night work as a principle; election of factory inspectors by the workers; State insurance against accidents, illness, want of employment, old age, etc. (3) Gradual nationalization of all the means of production and communication.

At the same time there was founded the "Foreign League of Polish Socialists"—which has now branches in most of the large towns of Western and Northern Europe—for the purpose of uniting into one active body all the Polish Socialists residing abroad, particularly the refugees. Its chief aim is to help the movement in the native country by carrying on the literary and publishing work, smuggling Socialist literature into Poland, taking proper measures in cases of wholesale arrests, etc. The prime importance of such outside aid to a country under the Russian yoke is self-evident. The Central Committee of the F. L. P. S. met originally in Paris; but after the first month of its existence it was expelled by the French government at the request of the Russian embassy, and has since taken quarters in London (7 Beaumont Square, Mile End, E.). This committee also represents the secret party organization of Russian Poland and acts as the uniting link between Prussian and Austrian Poland.

As it would take too much space to dilate upon the many brilliant achievements of the Polish Socialist party and the enormous growth of its propaganda and organization, mention will only be made here of some salient features of the work which it has done. Nearly 70,000 pamphlets were smuggled into Poland and sold or distributed during the last two and a half years; large quantities of literature were also printed by the secret press of Warsaw; May Day has been regularly and splendidly celebrated every year; a clandestine publication, entitled "The Worker," has been regularly issued in spite of all police searches. In the economic field numerous victories have been won. The strike in Bialystok, Aug., 1895, against the new factory laws' detrimental to labor, was participated in by all the workers of the town, to the number of 26,000. The third and most recent secret annual congress of the party, held in July, 1895, decided to carry on an energetic propaganda among the rural workers.

As the programme of the new party satisfies the most burning wants of all the oppressed, especially in its declaration of war against Czardom and for the Polish Republic, it has already secured to this party the leading place in the political life of the nation. In spite of the efforts of the Radical middle-class party, which is also striving for national independence, there seems now no doubt that the coming Polish uprising will be led by the Socialists, and that the workers will win the Republic by their own efforts and for their own welfare.

Austrian Poland (the so-called Galicia) was the birthplace of the first Polish Socialist paper, "The Worker," published in Lemberg in 1878; but Socialism did not become there a political force of importance until the 1st of May, 1890. In consequence of different industrial conditions this part of Poland is not subject to the influence of such highly developed capitalism as now exists in Russian Poland, and the proletarian masses, therefore, are not so large and so dense in the former as in the latter. But as it is also the least oppressed by foreign domination, the national intellectual life has to struggle against fewer obstacles, and since 1890 Socialism has grown very rapidly. The Comrades of Galicia have consequently now one of the best organized parties in the whole Austrian Empire, always at the front in the agitation for universal suffrage, in the celebration of the first of May and in the entire economic movement and propaganda of Socialism. The recent victories of the Radical Peasants' party at the elections to the Galician Diet (Sept., 1895) will also turn to the advantage of our Comrades.

In Prussian Poland the foreign domination is a fundamental obstacle to economic development, because all industry is killed by Prussian laws. In the second place the movement is retarded by the low state of national intellectual life, owing to the Prussian policy of destroying all Polish culture by means of German schools, prosecutions of Polish teachers, prohibition of all higher educational institutions within the conquered territory, etc. This part of Poland is consequently the poorest and most retrograde. Moreover, the Bismarckian persecution of Polish Roman Catholic priests has had the effect of keeping the people more attached to their clergy than they might otherwise be, and the influence of the latter is decidedly hostile to Socialism. It is no wonder, therefore, that in spite of the generous help from the German Social Democrats, the movement in this part of Poland is the weakest. Yet, although slowly, it is progressing. In 1893 the Polish Comrades, who belonged till then to the German Social Democratic party, founded their own "Polish Socialist party," and the number of votes cast for their candidates at the German parliamentary elections increased from 3,081 in 1890 to 6,235 in 1893. The principles of the Socialist programme in all parts of Poland are, of course, the same, and the trade unions, which are progressing favorably, especially in Austrian Poland, are organized entirely by the Socialist party.

Ten party periodicals are now published, namely, "The Dawn," the oldest, established in 1881, printed especially for Russian Poland, and now published monthly by A. Debski, 7 Beaumont Square, Mile End, London, E. price 4s. per year; "New Worker," 1890, weekly, Lemberg; "Workers' Paper," 1891, weekly, Berlin, for Prussian Poland; "Forward," 1892, weekly, Cracow; "Stork," 1892, monthly, Lemberg; "Worker," 1894, monthly, Warsaw; "Hearth," 1895, fortnightly, Lemberg; "Light," 1895, monthly, Lemberg; and "Bulletin

Officiel du Parti Socialiste Pojonal," June, 1895, published monthly in London at the above address, in French, chiefly to supply the foreign Socialist press with information concerning the Polish movement. The party owns two presses—a secret one in Warsaw, the other in London—from which are issued a large number of books and pamphlets.

"SOPHISITICATIONS."

(Continued from Page 1.)

not an article of food." The New York Board of Health asked for an injunction against the sale of certain Ping Grey teas, but the court refused to grant it on the ground that, although the tea in question had been clearly proved to be adulterated with gypsum, Prussian blue, sand, etc., it was necessary to prove that the effect of such admixtures was such as to constitute a serious danger to public health.

To say that sophistication of foods is widely spread is to put it very mildly; it will hardly be an exaggeration to compute the amount of adulteration of foods at 50 per cent. The Society of Public Analysis of England organized in 1874 issued the following results of their work:

| Year. | Samples examined. | Samples adulterated. | Percentage of adulteration. |
|--------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1875-6 | 15,989 | 2,895 | 18.19 |
| 1877 | 11,943 | 2,371 | 17.70 |
| 1878 | 15,107 | 2,505 | 16.58 |
| 1879 | 17,574 | 3,032 | 17.25 |
| 1880 | 17,919 | 3,132 | 17.47 |
| 1881 | 17,823 | 2,495 | 14.0 |
| 1882 | 19,439 | 2,916 | 15.0 |
| 1883 | 14,900 | 2,453 | 16.4 |

The diminution in the amount of adulteration beginning from 1881 was due to enactment of the Sale of Food and Drug Act. Although the manufacturer apparently got soon accustomed to the law, and recognizing that the devil is not as black as he is painted, relapsed to their former sophistication, and thus we see an increase to 16.4 in 1883. According to the statistics published by the Paris Municipal Laboratory, during the years of 1881-2, 17,010 samples were tested, of which 4,202 were found passable, 6,439 adulterated, but not injurious, and 2,006 injurious. From the results of the work of the New York State Board of Health during the year of 1882 we can get a glimpse at the adulterations practiced in various kinds of foods:

| Articles. | No. of samples tested. | No. of samples adulterated. | Percentage of adulteration. |
|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Butter | 40 | 21 | 52.50 |
| Olive oil | 16 | 9 | 56.25 |
| Baking powder | 84 | 8 | 9.52 |
| Flour | 117 | 8 | 6.84 |
| Spices | 180 | 112 | 62.22 |
| Coffee (ground) | 21 | 19 | 90.48 |
| Candy (yellow) | 10 | 7 | 70.00 |
| Brandy | 25 | 16 | 64.00 |
| Sugar (brown) | 67 | 4 | 5.97 |

From the annual report of the New York City Board of Health for the year 1885 we gather the following statistics: Adulterated milk destroyed, 1,701 quarts. Adulterated candy destroyed, 72,700 lbs. Adulterated cheese destroyed 5,700 lbs. Adulterated packages of tea ordered out of sale, 266 lbs. Canned goods condemned, 39,905 lbs. Pickles condemned, 4,000. Coffee condemned, 4,100 lbs. Pepper, spices and baking powder, 1,455 lbs. Meat and fish, 790,410 lbs. Trout, 212,000 lbs.

In a foot note in his book "Capital," K. Marx tells us of a certain chemist, Chevalier, who enumerated about 600 articles in the manufacture of which 10,20 and 30 different methods of adulteration are practised. He adds that he does not know all the methods, and does not mention all that he knows. He gives 6 kinds of adulteration of sugar, 9 of olive oil, 10 of butter, 12 of salt, 19 of milk, 20 of bread, 23 of brandy, 24 of meal, 28 of chocolate, 30 of wine, 32 of coffee, etc. "Even God Almighty does not escape this fate, for materials of sacrament are also adulterated."

In his book on adulteration published in London in 1820, Mr. Frederic Accum points out the general spread of this evil, affecting every industry. Woolen goods are adulterated with cotton, soap with clay, paper with plaster of paris, provisions of all kinds with number of worthless and actually injurious substances. "The eager and insatiable thirst for gain, says he, which seems to be a leading characteristic of the times, calls into action every human faculty, and gives an irresistible impulse to the power of invention, and where lucre becomes the reigning principle the possible sacrifice of a fellow creature's life is a secondary consideration."

At a meeting held in London on the 10th of March, 1851, a grocer produced a compound of burnt peas, dog biscuit, prepared earth, and substance which, he said, "I shall not describe because it is too horrid to mention." Speaking of the cruel abuses practiced by London bakers on their journeymen, K. Marx says that "their cry was so urgent that Mr. H. S. Tremere was appointed Royal Commissioner of Inquiry. His report, together with the evidence given roused, not the heart of the public, but its stomach. Englishmen, always well up in the Bible, knew well enough that man, unless by elective grace a capitalist, or landlord or sinecurist, is commanded to eat his bread in the sweat of his brow; but they did not know that he had to eat daily in his bread a quantity of human perspiration mixed with the discharges of abscesses, cobwebs, death, black beetles and putrid German yeast, without counting alum, sand and other agreeable mineral ingredients."

While it is true that as a general rule the small capitalist is the one that practices adulteration, yet we occasionally see the "big ones" trying to "swipe." Everybody remembers the attempt made by Carnegie & Co. to defraud the government by adulterating the armor plate. This great patriot, the eminent philanthropist, who figures as the ideal of a capitalist, wanted to be the lowest bidder, and as he could not accomplish it by any other means he substituted "by mistake" armor plate of an inferior quality. But we have to give them credit; they very seldom resort to such foul means, only in extremes. What is foul for a highway robber going about sneaking on the corners?

In conclusion, I will mention one article of food, and an important one at that, which is supplied to use in an impure state, causing many diseases, which pauperize the people, rob father and mother from their families, children from the community. In this case the impure and disease breeding state of the article is due in most cities not to the greed of the capitalist directly but to the corruption of his faithful servant—the

politician. I mean water. Water as a leading article of diet can hardly be overestimated; it is universally used by people of all ages, sex and station of life; it is as necessary to the human being as it is to fish, and its purity should be of primary importance; yet the water we drink contains among other impurities pathogenic germs, such as the bacillus of Eberth, which causes the well known disease, typhoid fever. The gang of Bigellows knows very well how to direct its energy in order to acquire popularity and fame, and have monuments erected to them while still alive. At the expense of the people they beautify that part of the city where the rich live by making parks which the majority of people seldom enjoy for lack of car fare, leisure, bodily strength, etc., while the workingmen are poisoned by water polluted by the refuse of mills, are stricken down with epidemic diseases, for lack of money in the city treasury to erect good waterworks (the rich do not need them, they drink "crystal" ice-distilled water.) Parks are a luxury, and if the people are to pay for everything they get, they should not be compelled to pay for luxuries which they cannot enjoy, while bare necessities are wanting. But why should they care for the health of the workingmen; are not enough of them on the market? Population, says Malthus, is on the constant increase anyhow, and especially to the programme of the Socialist Labor party, or of any other political party. This position has led to a bitter attack upon these by the leaders of the Socialist Labor party, and the attempt, only in part successful, to capture the trade union movement for political Socialism. The majority of the leaders oppose committing the unions of unions to avowed Socialism now, and especially to the programme of the Socialist Labor party, or of any other political party.

"This and other similar local experiences have led most of the trade union leaders of to-day to believe in keeping the trade unions, AS UNIONS, out of politics, and though many, perhaps most, trade unionists favor Socialism as an ultimate, the majority of the leaders oppose committing the unions of unions to avowed Socialism now, and especially to the programme of the Socialist Labor party, or of any other political party. This position has led to a bitter attack upon these by the leaders of the Socialist Labor party, and the attempt, only in part successful, to capture the trade union movement for political Socialism. The majority of the leaders oppose committing the unions of unions to avowed Socialism now, and especially to the programme of the Socialist Labor party, or of any other political party. 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PARTY NEWS.

Activity of Militant Socialists East, West, North and South.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY.
 NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Secretary
 Henry Kuhn, 184 William street, N. Y.

NATIONAL BOARD OF APPEALS—Secretary
 Robert Bandlow, 183 Champain St., Cleve-
 land, O.

National Executive Committee.

Meeting of Jan. 18th, with Comrade Stahl in the chair. Absent Matchett and Bennett, the former with the latter without excuse. The financial report for the week ending Jan. 15th showed receipts to the amount of \$57: expenditures, \$38.31; balance for the week, \$18.69. Among the receipts are \$5, remitted by O. Hesse, Jr. of Pawtucket, it being the balance in the treasury of the defunct German Section of that place.

Carless reported about his agitation in Connecticut and Massachusetts. Most meetings were good. Charters were granted for new Sections in Brattleboro, Vt.; Mulian, Idaho. Comrade Hickey reported the reorganization of Section Elmira, N. Y. A report from Pittsburgh, Pa., explained that the various Sections existing there had been consolidated into one. A charter was asked for, but as the charters now held must first be surrendered, the secretary was instructed to so inform the Comrades. L. A. MALKIEL, Rec. Sec.

S. L. P. Sections, Attention.

The Sections and branches of the party are herewith requested to take action to help dispose of the Proceedings of the last National Convention, and to place the same within reach of their members.

The "Proceedings" are a handsome 64-page pamphlet, that no member should be without, the less so since the price has been put below cost, at 10c. a copy. All orders should be addressed to the N. Y. Labor News Co., 64 East 4th street, New York City.

By order of the National Executive Committee, S. L. P.

HENRY KUHN, Secretary.

General Agitation Fund.

Previously acknowledged \$338.00
 Gust. Woldkin, Spencer, N. J. 15
 Ernest Lehman, Barre, Vt. 1.00
 Rud. Schiemenz, Bennington, Vt. 50
 Total \$339.65

HENRY KUHN, Secy.

Connecticut.

NEW HAVEN, Jan. 17.—New Haven Comrades, attention! At our last meeting, having resolved to enter into municipal election next April, it is necessary that every Comrade attend Section as well as branch meetings, and take an active part in the work which lies before us, for if all will do their share it will be so much easier for those Comrades which are always called upon to do the work, and the undertaking will show a far better result.

The Hebrew Branch held a public mass meeting Friday, Jan. 14, Comrade Feigenbaum speaker, which was attended by over 200 persons, showing that the Social Democracy is not cutting much ice in New Haven.

Massachusetts.

MALDEN, Jan. 15.—Comrade Harry Carless of Newark, N. J., will lecture here at the Court Room, on Ferry street, Monday, the 24th instant, at 8 p. m. and illustrate his lecture with stereopticon views. Admission free.

LYNN, Mass., Jan. 14.—The Lynn Section of the S. L. P. are in receipt of communications soliciting financial assistance without the seal of the S. L. P. As we have known men to make out their own papers and put the proceeds in their pockets, the Lynn Section will not recognize any communications without the seal of the S. L. P. We wish to call the attention of the Sections to the necessity for so doing.

JOHN A. HENLY, Organizer.

Worcester Section held a business meeting Thursday night and elected the following officers: Organizer, W. J. Hoar; secretary, Anna Wallberg; financial secretary and treasurer, F. A. Fortrom; library agent, C. G. Marcy, 503 Main street.

The organizer reports that during the State and municipal campaigns Worcester Comrades distributed some 44,000 leaflets, 2,000 PEOPLES, and nearly 1,000 pamphlets, no bills payable, with a balance in treasury and lists yet to hear from.

On last Thanksgiving morning the Ward Committee in a few hours' work distributed about 30,000 leaflets, nearly covering the city. This work was commenced upon by the capitalist press as evidence of a good Socialist organization.

During the campaign, the Trades Unions placed Jefferson Davis Pierce, president of Cigarmakers' Union, and President of Massachusetts State Branch of the F. of A. on the Democratic ticket as alderman with the backing of the Democratic party; one of the Socialist aldermanic candidate's vote lead him. This action of the Trades Union may have cost us some votes, but it was also the means of us getting 1,129 class-conscious vote, instead of a larger sympathetic one, which is the most gratifying result we could expect.

Sunday night before election, with Comrade Avery as one of the speakers, we had the largest Socialist meeting ever held in Worcester, a full 1,000 were in attendance, and hundreds turned away. We had an orchestra of 14 persons, all volunteered, and it is said that 80 per cent. of the musicians of Worcester are with the Socialists; some are members.

There are 1,000 Socialists in Worcester—10 per cent. organized into two branches, with more to follow, eight ward committees, and educational and press committee. A Karl Marx class where the study of capital is taken up: 50 copies are received each week of THE PEOPLE, "New Charter," "Beacon." New members as fast as admitted are required to read and study the pamphlets "Class Struggle," "Capitalist," "Class," "Proletariat," "Co-operative Commonwealth."

No Comrade in Worcester is allowed to publish or cause to be published any article on Socialism without the approval of the Press Committee. How's that for discipline?

The formation of the wire trust may be a serious thing for Worcester. Today's paper says that wire can be made cheaper elsewhere. About 3,000 persons are employed in this industry in this city. Already real estate has gone down where one of the wire mills is situated.

With the capital of New England's industry, cotton manufacturing, reducing wages 10 to 11 per cent.; with 800 Socialists in Boston; 800 in Little "Rocky"; a Socialist alderman in Haverhill; 1,000 Socialists in Worcester; free speech in open public streets, Comrade Avery being acquitted by jury; New England nor Massachusetts will not, must not, be in the rear in this conflict, the spirit of revolution must be based on knowledge, reading and study, yes, and disciplined we must be, for an early victory.

L. D. USHER.

New Jersey.

PATERSON, Jan. 18.—A "Karl Marx Class" was organized at Socialist headquarters in Paterson, N. J., last Sunday evening by electing John C. Duff director and John G. Rea secretary. Seventeen members enrolled their names, the list being headed by Mrs. Martha Moore Avery, of Boston, who is the organizer of the club.

The object of the class is the study of Scientific Socialism.

The attention of all members of the Passaic County Section is called to the formation of this class. Meetings every Sunday evening, 8 o'clock sharp, at Socialist Headquarters, 209 Main street, Paterson, N. J.

New York.

To Members and Friends of the Socialist Labor party:

The lower East Side is one of the most important and fruitful fields of Socialist agitation in Greater New York. You are all aware of recent events in this part of the city. You all know how impotent ambition, desertion and treachery have combined against the growing strength of the S. L. P. A campaign of malice and calumny was carried on against us, a campaign based on the ignorance, prejudice and lowest instincts of the masses. Yet we came out of the political battle with our ranks unbroken, our name untarnished, our red banner waving proudly to the breeze. Our organizations were put to a severe test, and they stood it splendidly. When with the opening of the new year we begin to think of the new campaign before us, we are struck with the need in this part of the city of a centre of Socialist activity, a place where party friends would be sure to obtain information, where they could meet for conversation, discussion and recreation. This has prompted several members and sympathizers of the S. L. P. to organize the "New York Socialist Club" as a centre of activity in these districts, to bring all who are in sympathy and accord with the principles of the S. L. P. into closer social contact, and to aid actively the district organizations in their work. In this club the political, educational and social sides will all find due recognition.

We particularly appeal to those friends of the S. L. P. who are not party members to join this club. The club meets every Monday evening at 200 East Broadway. For further information apply to the Secretary or to the meeting.

NEW YORK CITY.—30th Assembly District.—A meeting to discuss the question of withdrawing the delegates of the S. L. P. from the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance and Central Labor Federation of New York will be held at Bohemian National Hall, No. 321 East 73rd street, on Sunday afternoon, Jan. 23, at half-past two o'clock. All Comrades interested in the above question are cordially invited to take an active part in the discussion. Membership cards must be shown at the door.

Regular weekly meeting of the 34th and 35th A. D. Branch, Bronx Borough, was held last Friday evening, at their headquarters, 3d avenue and 149th street, Comrade Kinnane in the chair. A large amount of business was transacted, and the greatest amount of interest was manifested throughout the session. After the reports of delegates to General Committee, the reports of Executive Committee and Committee on Organization were received and disposed of. Voting was commenced on the various questions passed upon by the General Committee. First the question of the withdrawal of delegates to the S. T. & L. A.; 37 Comrades cast their votes against the withdrawal of the delegates and 4 for the withdrawal. The vote for the suspension of Branch Northfield was 24 for the suspension and 8 against. The expulsion of Gillis, a member of the 32d A. D. for taking part in a convention of the Social Democracy was sustained by a vote of 37 for the expulsion and none against. The following Comrades were nominated for the National Executive Committee: Isaac Bennett, Malkiel, Middleberger, Matchett and Teche. Comrade Kuhn was nominated for national secretary. A committee was appointed to visit all progressive and labor organizations in the Borough of Bronx asking their co-operation in the annual spring festival to be held by

Buffalo American Branch, S. L. P., will hold a discussion meeting at the Labor Lyceum, 550 Broadway, this coming Sunday, Jan. 23d, at 8 p. m. Subject: "The Immigration Question from a Socialist Standpoint." No Comrade or friend should deprive himself of the pleasure of being present at so well attended and interesting meetings we have been having lately. Bring also wife or lady friends along. They will find there many other ladies. Admission free.

Pennsylvania.

Any one who voted the S. L. P. ticket in Venango County last fall or others interested in the S. L. P. propaganda in said county, will help the matter along by addressing

O. N. E. LACKALL, Polk, Pa.

PARLIAMENTS OF LABOR.

D. A. No. 1.
 (CENTRAL LABOR FEDERATION OF N. Y.)

Delegate B. Korn, of the German Waiters' Union No. 1, was chairman at last Sunday's meeting of the N. Y. Central Labor Federation, D. A. No. 1, S. T. & L. A., and Delegate G. Wohl, of the Progressive Typographical Union No. 83 was vice-chairman.

Credentials were received from the Ale and Porter Union No. 1 for Ernest Bohm and John Lehr; Furriers' Union, O. Heinzberger; N. Y. German Cooks and Pastry Cooks, A. Uhde; Ind. Bakers, Br. 1, E. Leske, C. Toft; Pressmen and Feeders' Union, L. Pomarantz, J. Dicker and G. Karp. They were admitted.

The Committee on the May Demonstration reported that the first conference was a success, and a continued session will be held on Feb. 5. A referendum vote will be taken as to whether the affair will be celebrated by a parade or by a mass assembly at the Madison Square Garden. The report was received.

Ale and Porter Union No. 1 reported having elected the following officers for the year 1898: Secretary and walking delegate, Ernest Bohm; financial secretary, John Faust; treasurer, Fritz Fellenberg; sergeant-at-arms, John Witte; trustees, John Faust, Fritz Fellenberg, H. Younge and Ernest Bohm, secretary. Seven shop delegates were also elected.

It was resolved to attend the festival of the Progress Club this Saturday in a body. The Arrangements Committee for the ball of this union on Feb. 5 at 342 W. 42d street, reported that everything possible was being done to make the same a grand success. Five dollars were donated to the family of deceased member.

Ind. Bakers, Br. 1, reported having initiated new members. A discussion will be had this Sunday on the proposed amalgamation plan. Union 146 had differences at a shop and the places were not taken.

Ind. Bakers, Br. 2, reported election of officers. New members were admitted. Relative to Boss Leopold it was resolved to re-accept the suspended member with a fine of \$10, and to give Leopold enough labels to last a week.

United Engineers' Union No. 1 initiated new members, and will attend the festival of the Progress Club.

Bartenders' Union No. 1 will hold its quarterly general meeting this Friday at 206 Allen street. The bartender at Braun's Protection Hall did not as yet apply for admission.

Waiters' Alliance Liberty reported that its ball Monday evening will be a gala affair. On Thursday a decision will be rendered relative to their secretary, who is reputed to be a member of Tammany Hall.

Ind. Pianomakers' Union elected delegates to the May Conference.

Silver Workers' Prot. Association reported having endorsed the label of the G. E. B., S. T. & L. A. Their branch at Providence, R. I., is making splendid progress, having initiated 15 new members.

Progressive Typographical Union No. 83 reported that they are making good headway, and having gained four shops from the Hebrew-American Typographical Union. The agitation of the progressive unions is bearing good fruit. Pressmen and Feeders' Union re-

THE DAILY PEOPLE
\$50,000 FUND.

Amount Pledged down to January 18th, 1898

\$4,575.

The following amounts have been paid down to January 18th, 1898.
 Previously acknowledged \$2,222.76
 Wm. Grubb, City, \$10; Bruno J. Brander, City, \$10.

Total \$2,222.76

Pledgers will please keep in mind the dates on which their payments fall due; as per printed list, and remit promptly. If any error appears on the list, correct with equal promptness.

THE DAILY PEOPLE COMMITTEE
 184 William St., N. Y.

GRAND ANNUAL

Masquerade and Civic Ball,

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE

9th CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, S. L. P.,

Comprising the 2d, 4th, 8th, 12th & 16th A. D.'s, S. L. P.;

N. Y. Socialist Literary Soc'y; "Carl Marx Socialist Club"; "Young Soc. Citizens Club", Etc.

FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE LABOR PRESS,

on Saturday Evening, January 22d, 1898,

at GRAND CENTRAL PALACE,

Lexington Ave., 43d & 44th Sts.

TICKET — — — — — ADMITS ONE — — — — — 25 CENTS.

Music by Musical Alliance Local No. 1028.

Two Bicycles, one Ladies' and one Gents', and 10 other valuable prizes will be given to the most original and comical costumes. Tickets for sale at THE PEOPLE'S Office.

1878 Twentieth Anniversary 1898

OF THE

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SATURDAY, February 12th, '98,

(Lincoln's Birthday)

AT THE

GRAND CENTRAL PALACE

combined with a

Grand Seidl Concert,

of the entire celebrated Metropolitan Orchestra, ANTON SEIDL, Conductor.

Eminent Soloists and a Chorus of 150 Voices.

BALLET of 150 Ladies!

BALL.

Concert to commence at 5 o'clock P. M.

Tickets 25 Cents a Person.

At the Box 50 Cents.

THE COMMITTEE.

To the Subscribers of the Daily People Major Fund.

COMRADES:

The following subscribers to the above fund are urgently requested to send their addresses to the undersigned:

L. Reutal, Wm. Black, Benjamin Doerner, Gus. Henckler, W. Schleuer, Wm. F. Mengen, Brown, all of New York City; M. A. Hudson, Thornton; H. P. Blount, Atlanta, Ga.; Chas. R. Correll, J. V. McCormick, Ulysses, L. K. Lauher, T. Van and W. R., all of Chicago, Ill.

Subscribers who have received a circular will please return the same with their answer. Many of the circulars sent out are still out. It is desirable and important that the information asked for be had at an early date.